

Ground Operations- Stanislaus NF (FINAL)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700471

1. Project Description

A. Statement of GO Activity

Project will provide ground operation activities for the Stanislaus National Forest Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) and Over-Snow Vehicle (OSV) programs located on the Mi-Wok, Calaveras, Summit, and Groveland Ranger Districts.

Funding will assist in annual operating costs associated with the operation and maintenance at three Sno-Parks (Highway 108 Sonora Pass, Spicer Road, and Lake Alpine off Highway 4) and five OHV recreation sites (Date Flat OHV Parking Area, Niagara OHV Campground, Hull Creek Campground, Black Springs dispersed camping area, and Crandall OHV parking and dispersed camping area) located on the Forest. Operations and maintenance activities include restroom cleaning, garbage service, campsite cleanup, vault restroom pumping, and information kiosk maintenance.

Project will support routine OHV route repair on NFTS designated routes and stabilization of proposed NFTS routes on Mi-Wok (Crandall Peak/Deer Creek, Hull/Trout Creek, Hunter Creek), Calaveras (Black Springs, Round Valley, Deer Valley, Slick Rock, Sapps Hill, Liberty Hill, Pine Needle Flat, Rattlesnake), Summit (Eagle Meadows, Niagara), and Groveland (Moore Creek, Date Flat, Granite). Routine repair includes travel way brushing, rock, log, and debris removal, drainage structure maintenance, tread grading, sign repair/replacement, and immediate closure of newly created unauthorized routes.

Request includes support in the implementation of the project HMP and Soil Conservation Plan including effectiveness monitoring of prior and proposed conservation activities and completion of Trail Condition surveys and inventories.

Equipment purchases include replacement of OHV equipment including motorcycles and ATVs over ten years old and the purchase of a new UTV side by side for OHV trail maintenance and repair. Additional equipment request includes the purchase of a single track dozer/tractor, chainsaws, and polesaws.

Material purchases include tread hardening blocks, informational and educational signing, and miscellaneous supplies in support of the annual OHV ground operation program.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

Project funding will maintain, support, and enhance OHV Recreation as routine route repair will be accomplished on a greater number of Forest routes than current Forest trail budgets allow. Additional grant funding will minimize potential adverse resource impacts and sustain routes in an acceptable condition for continued and ongoing use by the visiting public (e.g., removal of logs and debris, improved educational signing, drainage structure repair). Additionally, program support will improve public health and safety (e.g., regular cleaning of restrooms and campsites, litter removal), and reduce future program cost by completing trail repair prior to any potential major maintenance needs on routes (e.g., completion of maintenance and repair on green and yellow rated trails prior to routes going into red rated condition).

C. Describe the size of the specific Project Area(s) in acres and/or miles

The project area encompasses 539,885 acres of National Forest System Land available for OHV road and trail opportunities out of the 898,000 total acres within the Stanislaus National Forest boundaries.

OHV opportunities are available on a system of National Forest Transportation System (NFTS) designated routes including 1,735 miles of high clearance roads open to non-highway licensed off-highway vehicles, 61 miles of high clearance four-wheel drive vehicle trails, 21 miles of ATV trails, and 13 miles of motorcycle trails. An additional 245 miles of non-system routes are currently open and available for OHVs use.

The Stanislaus NF released the Motorized Travel Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in November 2009. Upon implementation, the plan will add additional Off-Highway Vehicle routes to the Stanislaus National Forest

Transportation System (NFTS). A portion of the 245 miles of non-system routes will not be designated and will be closed to motor vehicles at this time.

OSV opportunities include 73 miles of signed groomed routes, 44 miles of unsigned groomed routes, 555 miles of unsigned un-groomed routes, and 181,430 acres available for cross-country OSV travel by snowmobiles.

D. Location and description of OHV opportunities

The Stanislaus National Forest, located in the Central Sierra Nevada Mountains between Lake Tahoe and Yosemite National Park, encompasses 898,000 total acres with OHV road and trail opportunities available on 539,885 acres of forest land situated in Alpine, Calaveras, Mariposa, and Tuolumne Counties. The Forest is within a 3 hour drive of the San Francisco Bay Area (e.g., San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose) and 1 1/2 hour drive from the Central Valley of California (e.g., Modesto, Stockton, Merced). Many residences in these areas recreate on the Stanislaus National Forest.

Existing Stanislaus NF opportunities include three sno-parks, five OHV recreation sites, and nine popular OHV riding areas (Crandall/Deer Creek, Hull/Trout Creek, Hunter Creek, Black Springs, Interface/White Pines, Eagle Meadow/Niagara Creek, Date Flat, Moore Creek, and Granite/Jawbone Areas).

Additional OHV opportunities near the Stanislaus National Forest include the Stanislaus County LaGrange OHV Park (150 acre open Riding Park 30 miles southwest of Sonora) and OHV areas located on adjacent Sierra and El Dorado National Forest.

2. Rerouting Requirements

Rerouting

(a) Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site plans are required (See 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen)

If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting

Additional Documentation

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1. **Project Timeline (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
2. **Conceptual Drawings and Site Plans (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
3. **Project-Specific Maps**
4. **Optional Project-Specific Application Documents**

Attachments:

[Stanislaus NF OHV Ground Operation Photos](#)

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: USFS - Stanislaus National Forest
Application: Ground Operations- Stanislaus NF (FINAL)

2/25/2010

Project Cost Estimate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	USFS - Stanislaus National Forest		
PROJECT TITLE :	Ground Operations- Stanislaus NF (FINAL)	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	G09-02-19-G01
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>Project will provide ground operation activities for the Stanislaus National Forest Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) and Over-Snow Vehicle (OSV) programs located on the Mi-Wok, Calaveras, Summit, and Groveland Ranger Districts.</p> <p>Funding will assist in annual operating costs associated with the operation and maintenance at three Sno-Parks (Highway 108 Sonora Pass, Spicer Road, and Lake Alpine off Highway 4) and five OHV recreation sites (Date Flat OHV Parking Area, Niagara OHV Campground, Hull Creek Campground, Black Springs dispersed camping area, and Crandall OHV parking and dispersed camping area) located on the Forest. Operations and maintenance activities include restroom cleaning, garbage service, campsite cleanup, vault restroom pumping, and information kiosk maintenance.</p> <p>Project will support routine OHV route repair on NFTS designated routes and stabilization of proposed NFTS routes on Mi-Wok (Crandall Peak/Deer Creek, Hull/Trout Creek, Hunter Creek), Calaveras (Black Springs, Round Valley, Deer Valley, Slick Rock, Sapps Hill, Liberty Hill, Pine Needle Flat, Rattlesnake), Summit (Eagle Meadows, Niagara), and Groveland (Moore Creek, Date Flat, Granite). Routine repair includes travel way brushing, rock, log, and debris removal, drainage structure maintenance, tread grading, sign repair/replacement, and immediate closure of newly created unauthorized routes.</p> <p>Request includes support in the implementation of the project HMP and Soil Conservation Plan including effectiveness monitoring of prior and proposed conservation activities and completion of Trail Condition surveys and inventories.</p> <p>Equipment purchases include replacement of OHV equipment including motorcycles and ATVs over ten years old and the purchase of a new UTV side by side for OHV trail maintenance and repair. Additional equipment request includes the purchase of a single track dozer/tractor, chainsaws, and polesaws.</p> <p>Material purchases include tread hardening blocks, informational and educational signing, and miscellaneous supplies in support of the annual OHV ground operation program.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Other-District Ranger	10.000	480.000	DAY	0.00	4,800.00	4,800.00

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-District PS PAL Notes : Public Service Program Area Leader (PS PAL)- Includes Recreation and Off-Highway Vehicle Programs.	40.000	400.000	DAY	0.00	16,000.00	16,000.00
	Other-Forest PS PAL Notes : Public Service Program Area Leader (PS PAL)- Includes Recreation and Off-Highway Vehicle Programs.	7.000	470.000	DAY	0.00	3,290.00	3,290.00
	Other-OHV/Rec Specialist	245.000	310.000	DAY	69,750.00	6,200.00	75,950.00
	Other-OHV/Rec Tech GS-07 Notes : (GS-07- match includes campground O&M at Hull Creek and Niagara OHV campgrounds)	55.000	280.000	DAY	11,200.00	4,200.00	15,400.00
	Other-OHV/Rec Tech GS-5	153.000	240.000	DAY	29,520.00	7,200.00	36,720.00
	Other-OHV/Rec Tech Temp GS-05	120.000	166.000	DAY	14,940.00	4,980.00	19,920.00
	Other-OHV/Rec Tech Temp GS-04	80.000	152.000	DAY	9,120.00	3,040.00	12,160.00
	Other-OHV Volunteer Notes : OHV Volunteer contribution (e.g., trail repair, signing, facility cleaning)	300.000	156.000	DAY	0.00	46,800.00	46,800.00
	Other-SWECO Crew	30.000	550.000	DAY	12,650.00	3,850.00	16,500.00
	Other-Trail Crew Notes : 5 person trail repair handcrew (e.g., brushing, tread repair, drainage structure clean out, sign repair, barrier installation)	12.000	1000.000	DAY	12,000.00	0.00	12,000.00
	Other-Resource Specialist Notes : Monitoring, etc. (Wildlife, botany, archeology, hydrology)	8.000	310.000	DAY	930.00	1,550.00	2,480.00
	Total for Staff				160,110.00	101,910.00	262,020.00
2	Contracts						
	Other-Backhoe w/operator Notes : (match includes Calaveras projects)	15.000	800.000	DAY	8,000.00	4,000.00	12,000.00

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-Restroom vault pumping Notes : (vault pumping Groveland grant funded, Hull Creek and Niagara OHV FS funded)	8.000	500.000	EA	1,000.00	3,000.00	4,000.00
	Total for Contracts				9,000.00	7,000.00	16,000.00
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Other-Signs Notes : Fiberglass post w/ decals	405.000	30.000	EA	12,150.00	0.00	12,150.00
	Other-Signs Notes : Mid size sign approx. 24X24in	50.000	100.000	EA	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
	Other-Signs Notes : Large sign approx. 48X48 in	24.000	300.000	EA	7,200.00	0.00	7,200.00
	Other-Tools Notes : Misc. tools and equipment (e.g., shovels, powersaw, drill)	4.000	1000.000	MISC	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
	Other-Supplies Notes : Misc. supplies (e.g., concrete, bolts, paint)	4.000	1500.000	MISC	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
	Other-OHV operator safety gear Notes : OHV Operator Safety Gear (e.g., helmet, gloves, goggles, pants, shirt, elbow/knee guards)	4.000	500.000	EA	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
	Other-Supplies Notes : (Hull Creek and Niagara OHV misc. supplies/materials including toilet paper, garbage bags, cleaning supplies)	3.000	1000.000	MISC	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Other-Barriers (Rock) Notes : (\$40/ton delivered project sites)	80.000	40.000	MISC	0.00	3,200.00	3,200.00
	Other-Gravel Notes : Grant request Crandall OHV access road. Costs includes 35 mile delivery to site.	60.000	65.000	YD	3,900.00	0.00	3,900.00
	Other-Tread Blocks	1.000	20000.000	MISC	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Notes : Trail tread harden blocks						
	Other-Gates Notes : Purchase of gate and installation (e.g., Cedar Ridge, Stoddard Springs, Lyons Lake)	5.000	5000.000	EA	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
	Other-Barrier Replacement Notes : Groveland Ranger District (Sawmill Mtn Area- Middle Fork)	10.000	300.000	EA	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				88,250.00	6,200.00	94,450.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Other-SWECO Use Notes : (e.g., fuel, oil, and fluids)	30.000	176.000	DAY	3,520.00	1,760.00	5,280.00
	Other-Trail Crew Use Notes : (e.g., fuel, vehicle use, tools, etc.)	10.000	51.000	DAY	306.00	204.00	510.00
	Other-ATV/MC Use Notes : OHV daily use rate (cost per day includes fuel, oil, and fluids)	200.000	8.000	DAY	1,400.00	200.00	1,600.00
	Other-4WD FOR Notes : Fixed Ownership Rate (FOR) - Forest Service monthly vehicle rental (use) rate.	375.000	14.000	DAY	0.00	5,250.00	5,250.00
	Other-4WD Mileage Notes : Forest Service vehicle mileage rate (rate per mile driven).	375.000	20.000	DAY	0.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
	Other-Snowmobile Repair Notes : Snowmobile repair and maintenance (e.g., annual service, engine repair, replacements parts).	2.000	2000.000	MISC	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00
	Other-Sound Monitor Calibration Notes : (e.g., wildlife, private land, adjacent non-motorized use area monitoring)	2.000	500.000	MISC	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Total for Equipment Use Expenses				8,226.00	16,914.00	25,140.00

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
5	Equipment Purchases						
	Other-ATV Notes : (e.g., 500cc w/aftermarket assessories) 1 Calaveras, 1 Summit	2.000	8500.000	EA	17,000.00	0.00	17,000.00
	Other-Motorcycle Notes : (e.g., 250cc w/aftermarket assessories) 1 Calaveras	1.000	7500.000	EA	7,500.00	0.00	7,500.00
	Other-OHV trailer Notes : (e.g., two unit ATV trailer) 1 Calaveras	1.000	2500.000	EA	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
	Other-UTV/RTV Notes : Side by Side UTV/RTV w/ snow tracks (e.g., OHV trail repair, Wheeled Over Snow Operations) 1- Mi-Wok	1.000	15000.000	EA	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
	Other-OHV Trail Tractor Notes : (e.g., Single Track Trail Tractor w/ backhoe attachment and grading blade)	1.000	80000.000	EA	80,000.00	0.00	80,000.00
	Other-Traffic Counter Notes : OHV visitor use monitoring (Groveland)	1.000	1500.000	EA	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
	Other-Chainsaw/Polesaws Notes : OHV Trail repair and maintenance (e.g., chainsaws, polesaws)	1.000	2000.000	MISC	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
	Total for Equipment Purchases				125,500.00	0.00	125,500.00
6	Others						
	Other-OHV Trail Repair Notes : (e.g., OHV trail repair and maintenance training)	6.000	310.000	DAY	0.00	1,860.00	1,860.00
	Other-OHV Trail Monitoring and Surveys Notes : (e.g., training on use of OHV monitoring forms, trail condition surveys, photo logs, and database entry)	6.000	310.000	DAY	0.00	1,860.00	1,860.00
	Total for Others				0.00	3,720.00	3,720.00

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
7	Indirect Costs						
	Indirect Costs-Administrative Costs Notes : 10% USFS Overhead Cost	1.000	39000.000	YR	0.00	39,000.00	39,000.00
Total Program Expenses					391,086.00	174,744.00	565,830.00
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					391,086.00	174,744.00	565,830.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					391,086.00	174,744.00	565,830.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: USFS - Stanislaus National Forest
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2/25/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	160,110.00	101,910.00	262,020.00	
2	Contracts	9,000.00	7,000.00	16,000.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	88,250.00	6,200.00	94,450.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	8,226.00	16,914.00	25,140.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	125,500.00	0.00	125,500.00	
6	Others	0.00	3,720.00	3,720.00	
7	Indirect Costs	0.00	39,000.00	39,000.00	
Total Program Expenses		391,086.00	174,744.00	565,830.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		391,086.00	174,744.00	565,830.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		391,086.00	174,744.00	565,830.00	

Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS)

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. Does the proposed Project include a request for funding for CEQA and/or NEPA document preparation prior to implementing the remaining Project Deliverables (i.e., is it a two-phased Project pursuant to Section 4970.06.1(b)) (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

ITEM 3 - Project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378

- c. ITEM 3 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- d. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- e. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 4 – 10

ITEM 4 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

The Stanislaus National Forest Ground Operations Project request funds for routine operation and maintenance of National Forest Transportation System (NFTS) designated routes. No impacts are expected as cross country motor vehicle travel is prohibited on the Forest and all activities associated with project will take place on the NFTS. No wetlands, navigable waters, or threatened or endangered species are located within project area.

Sensitive habitats are protected with physical barriers, fencing, and signing. Additionally, Limited Operating Periods (LOP) and route closures are implemented as required or deemed necessary for habitat resource protection.

Project funding includes monitoring of routes to ensure compliance with Best Management Practices, Soil Conservation Plans, and Forest Service Route Condition Surveys. Monitoring and data collected will be used to take immediate corrective action on any adverse resource occurrences and utilized for future project planning and resource protection enhancement.

ITEM 5 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

Cumulative impacts are expected to be minimal as a result of this project. All activities associated with the project will take place on NFTS designated routes. Increased use is not expected as a result of this project. OHV use has occurred on the STF for many years. Although use has increased over time, field observations suggest that use numbers have stabilized in the past couple of years.

The recently released Stanislaus National Forest Motorized Travel Management Environmental Impact Statement (STF MTM EIS) addresses cumulative impacts. Off highway vehicle routes were designated to minimize impacts to adjacent private land and residential areas, protect sensitive resources (e.g., plants, animals, cultural resources), and minimize potential soil loss.

Additionally, seasonal closures will be enacted within portions of the project area and all motor vehicle use is restricted to NFTS designated routes. Cross country motor vehicle travel is prohibited Forestwide, providing additional resource protection.

Other guiding plans and documents to be utilized during project implementation include the Stanislaus National Forest (STF) Land Management Plan and the STF OHV Soil Conservation Plan.

ITEM 6 - Soil Impacts

Substantial soil loss is not anticipated as all activities will take place on NFTS designated routes. The recently released Stanislaus National Forest Motorized Travel Management Environmental Impact Statement (STF MTM EIS) addresses soil loss. Off highway vehicle routes were designated to minimize soil loss and mitigations prescribed to sustain OHV routes for the long term. Mitigations include tread hardening, drainage structure construction, and vehicle barriers.

Specifically related to soil impacts, the proposed project will likely improve environmental conditions as funding will be available to complete routine maintenance and repair of routes (e.g., tread grading, drainage structure reshaping), tread hardening (e.g., tread block, rocking), and barrier installation (e.g., meadow, steep slope, sensitive area protection).

ITEM 7 - Damage to Scenic Resources

The Stanislaus National Forest has one officially designated state scenic highway, highway 4 in Calaveras and Alpine Counties on the Calaveras Ranger District. Damage to the designated state scenic highway is not anticipated as NFTS designated off highway vehicle trails are located away from the Highway 4 corridor and most routes are heavily screened by trees and vegetation and cannot be seen from the highway. The project proposes no new route construction or removal of adjacent vegetation or trees.

The STF Land Management Plan guides projects within the viewshed and will be followed during project implementation.

ITEM 8 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 9 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Discuss the potential for the proposed Project to have any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources.

Adverse impacts are not anticipated as all activities associated with the project will take place on NFTS designated routes. Appropriate NEPA documentation has been completed for the project, including protection of any historical or cultural resources. Known sites will be avoided during implementation of ground disturbing activities. If previously unknown sites are discovered during project activities, work will be terminated immediately and appropriate personnel contacted and consulted.

ITEM 10 - Indirect Significant Impacts

Adverse indirect impacts are not anticipated as all activities associated with the project will take place on NFTS designated routes. The Project is not expected to cause indirect significant impacts on site or elsewhere. By providing a well managed program, routine maintenance of routes and visitor information to users, compliance is anticipated minimizing any potential impacts associated with the project.

Although use has increased over time, field observations suggest that use has stabilized in the past couple of years and is not expected to increase due to funding of project.

If project is not funded and routine maintenance cannot be completed on specific beginner routes, users may shift use to closed routes (e.g., County Roads, highway licensed only routes) due to increase in difficulty navigating route, causing potential impacts to these routes.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[FS Letter to File - NEPA 2010](#)

Evaluation Criteria

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 3

(Note: This field will auto-populate once the Cost Estimate and Evaluation Criteria are Validated.) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☒ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.

2. Failure to complete the Project would result in: 8

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points)
☒ Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points)
☒ Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points)
☒ Potential trespass (2 points)
☒ Additional damage to Facilities (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Failure to perform routine operations and maintenance of OHV facilities (trails) may result in the future loss of OHV opportunities. Failure to perform routine maintenance (e.g., tread work, drainage structure reshaping) may cause routes to rut and otherwise reach a red condition resulting in temporary closure. Without routine down tree removal, users may go around downed logs creating additional routes and negatively impacting cultural resource sites and special species habitat. Maintenance of route and property boundary signing will minimize the potential for trespass onto private lands and into other areas where OHV use is not authorized.

3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by 13

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points)
☒ Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points)
☒ Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points)
☒ Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point)
☒ Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Requested grant funds will allow for routine OHV route operations and maintenance, accomplishing each of the items identified above. Routine repair and maintenance activities include drainage dip reconstruction/reshaping, tread grading, clean out of culverts and drainage ditches, sign installation/repair, and barrier maintenance.

Through on the ground maintenance efforts, signing, and education, existing opportunities for a variety of motorized uses vehicles types will continue to be available on the STF.

The STF provides a wide variety of motor vehicle routes (4WD, ATV, MC), including easy to most difficult levels of difficulty. Funding request includes repair and maintenance on all types of routes throughout the Forest.

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Publicly noticed meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
☒ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

The Project was developed with public input via phone calls, e-mails, and personal contacts. Individuals, OHV clubs (e.g., Merced Dirt Riders, Tri-County Off Road Vehicle Club) encouraged the Forest to apply for operations and maintenance grant funds, purchase of a new trail tractor, and route signing. Through news releases and letters to interested parties, public review of the application was solicited and comments and suggestions received were incorporated into the project as deemed acceptable and an improvement to the overall project.

5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.

5. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ 4 or more (4 points) ☐ 2 to 3 (2 points)
☐ 1 (1 point) ☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

Ongoing routine maintenance of OHV facilities is accomplished using a variety of user groups/organizations and individual volunteers. Organizations/groups identified to date include the Merced Dirt Riders, Will Mullock & friends, Mud, Sweat & Gears, 4x4 in Motion, Tri-County Off-Road Vehicle Club, Stanislaus NF Trail Riders, and several individual volunteers.

6. Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 6.

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by 7

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 7 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
☒ Protecting water quality (1 point)
☐ Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
☒ Protecting special-status species (1 point)
☐ Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)
☒ Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
☒ Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)
☒ Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

Project grant funds will help to avoid and/or minimize impacts to natural and cultural resources by conducting routine operations and maintenance. Existing barriers and signing will be maintained to control use; restricting motorized vehicle use to NFTS designated routes. In addition to available Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM), users are contacted and educated on proper use of National Forest System Lands and directed to legal OHV opportunities. As a result, damage to special status species and habitats are minimized or avoided. Routine route repair and drainage structure reshaping, will serve to keep soils in place, protecting downstream water quality. Restroom facilities are available at many trailheads and use areas providing appropriate sanitation needs. Forest OHV routes are designed and constructed to minimize impacts to sensitive resources and minimize soil loss. Routes are located away from known sensitive resources when possible or mitigation is implemented to avoid direct impacts (e.g., barriers)

7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing 5

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point)
- ☒ Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point) [Use of native material adjacent to routes for blocking (barriers) of unauthorized]

8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies such as 4

- Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment
- Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind)
- Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet)
- Low flow plumbing fixtures
- Water efficient landscaping

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ No (No points) ☒ Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

Low volatile organic compound emission materials will be purchased and used when feasible for all project materials and supplies. Equipment purchases will include increased fuel mileage (over currently used older equipment) and four stroke gas powered engines as available. Currently used older and less efficient equipment will be decommissioned and removed from service as warranted.

9. Motorized Access - Q 9.

9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following non-motorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camping | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Birding |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equestrian trails |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Climbing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) [Mtn Biking] | |

